## EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with TOAN TRAN (Reg. # 54,942) on July 31, 2010.

**Please amend the application as follows:**

**In the claims:**

**Please amend claim 1, claim 12 and claim 14 as follows:**

1. (Currently Amended)        A method, comprising:

receiving a user request into a coordinating device, wherein the user request requests a task to be performed by one or more of a plurality of electronic devices available ad-hoc;

processing [[with]] at said coordinating device a service description information for each of [[a]] the one or more of the plurality of electronic devices available ad-hoc [[to]] and identify functionally responsive combinations of electronic devices capable of servicing said user request;

calculating a score for each of the functionally responsive combinations, said calculating using user preference information;

configuring said available electronic devices <u>of the functionally responsive combinations</u> into an ad-hoc combination ~~according to~~ <u>based on</u> said <u>calculated</u> scores; and

servicing said user request with said ad-hoc combination,

wherein calculating the score for each of the functionally responsive combinations is ~~based on~~ <u>calculated as</u>: -

$$AS(A, AP) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} sw_i(D, AP) * e(D_i) * DS_i(D, DP_i)$$

where:

$A$ is a particular functionally responsive combination;

$AP$ is a combination-level policy, <u>wherein the combination-level policy indicates how the electronic devices are scored relative to each other</u>;

$AS$ is a calculated score <u>for the particular functionally responsive combination</u>;

$n$ is a number of <u>electronic</u> devices that are included in said particular combination, <u>wherein n is greater than one</u>;

$sw_i$ is a weight assigned to each device of type $i$ according to said combination-level policy $AP$;

$DP$ is a device scoring policy based on the user preference information;

$DS_i$ is an unweighted device score for each device $D$; and

$e(D_i)$ is a percentage indicating availability of said device $D_i$, <u>wherein the percentage is based on a status of said device $D_i$</u>.

12. (Currently Amended)    A programmable apparatus for selecting a combination of electronic devices from a plurality of available electronic devices for performing a user request, each electronic device having service description information associated therewith, said apparatus comprising:

user interface means for receiving a user request;

a processor for processing said service description information associated with said available electronic devices [[to]] for identifying functionally responsive combinations of electronic devices, each of the functionally responsive combinations being capable of servicing said user request; and for calculating a score for each of the functionally responsive combinations, said calculating using user preference information; [[and]] for selecting one of said functionally responsive combinations according to based on said calculated scores[[,]]; and for servicing the user request with the selected one of said functionally responsive combinations,

wherein calculating the score for each functionally responsive combination is based on calculated as:

$$AS(A, AP) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} sw_i(D, AP) * e(D_i) * DS_i(D, DP_i)$$

where:

A is a particular functionally responsive combination;

AP is a combination-level policy, wherein the combination-level policy indicates how the electronic devices are scored relative to each other;

AS is a calculated score for the particular functionally responsive combination;

n is a number of devices that are included in said particular combination, wherein n is greater than one;

$sw_i$ is a weight assigned to each device of type $i$ according to said combination-

level policy $AP$;

$DP$ is a device scoring policy based on the user preference information;

$DS_i$ is an unweighted device score for each device $D$; and

$e(D_i)$ is a percentage indicating availability of said device $D_{i,}$ wherein the

percentage is based on a status of said device $D_i$.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Computer~~ A non-transitory computer data storage media ~~having~~

~~programmed thereon~~ storing computer software instructions to make a programmable device

execute the following steps:

receiving a user request, wherein the user request requests a task to be performed by one

or more of a plurality of available devices;

processing service description information for each of the one or more of the plurality of

~~plural~~ available devices [[to]] and identify functionally responsive combinations of devices, each

functionally responsive combination being capable of servicing said user request;

calculating a score for each of the functionally responsive combinations, said calculating

using user preference information; [[and]]

selecting one of said functionally responsive combinations ~~according to~~ based on said

calculated scores[[,]]; and

servicing the user request with the selected one of said functionally responsive

combinations,

wherein calculating the score for each of the functionally responsive combinations is ~~based on~~ <u>calculated as</u>: -

$$AS(A, AP) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} sw_i(D, AP) * e(D_i) * DS_i(D, DP_i)$$

where:

*A* is a particular functionally responsive combination;

*AP* is a combination-level policy<u>, wherein the combination-level policy indicates how the electronic devices are scored relative to each other</u>;

*AS* is a calculated score <u>for the particular functionally responsive combination</u>;

*n* is a number of devices that are included in said particular combination<u>, wherein n is greater than one</u>;

$sw_i$ is a weight assigned to each device of type *i* according to said combination-level policy *AP;*

*DP* is a device scoring policy based on the user preference information;

$DS_i$ is an unweighted device score for each device *D;* and

*e(D_i)* is a percentage indicating availability of said device $D_i$<u>, wherein the percentage is based on a status of said device $D_i$</u>.

### *Examiner Comments*

The processor in claim 12 is interpreted as a computer processor such as CPU or microprocessor known in the art, and as acknowledged by the applicant in the telephonic interview held on July 30, 2010 (see attached).

## *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KAMAL B. DIVECHA whose telephone number is (571)272-5863. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP (M-F: 10-6.30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN FOLLANSBEE can be reached on 571-272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


/KAMAL B DIVECHA/
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